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January 1956

THE ACCELERATED BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION PROGRAM

1. Current Status of the Program
2. Explanation of Certification
of Herds and Areas
3. Proposed Regulation Affecting
Interstate Movement of Animals



Agricultural Research Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATUS OF THE ACCELERATED BRUCELLOSIS
ERADICATION PROGRAM

(December 31, 1955)

Considerable progress has been made in the accelerated brucellosis eradication program authorized by the Congress and announced by the Secretary of Agriculture in September 1954. The purpose of the special effort is to strengthen and expand Federal-State cooperative eradication programs in order to test as many herds as possible, remove reactors, vaccinate calves, and certify herds and areas as brucellosis-free. As more areas are certified, the goal of total brucellosis eradication can be brought closer.

Results of the speed-up began to be reflected in reports of activities for the closing months of 1954, but for purposes of determining the progress of the accelerated program, measures carried out during 1955 can be compared with those of 1954.

For example, in calendar year 1954, 10,198,000 cattle were blood tested, compared with 17,129,000 in 1955, an increase of 68 percent. This represents well over 1 million cattle tested each month during 1955. Furthermore, 756,000 herds were blood tested during 1954 compared with 1,172,000 in 1955, an increase of 55 percent.

In addition, 1,039,000 herds were screened with the brucellosis ring test (B. R. T.) in 1954 compared with 1,496,000 in 1955. During 1954 about 17,820,000 cattle were estimated to be included in herds tested by the B. R. T. compared with 25,440,000 in 1955.

In carrying out calfhood vaccination, 4,061,000 animals were vaccinated in 1954 compared with 4,608,000 in 1955.

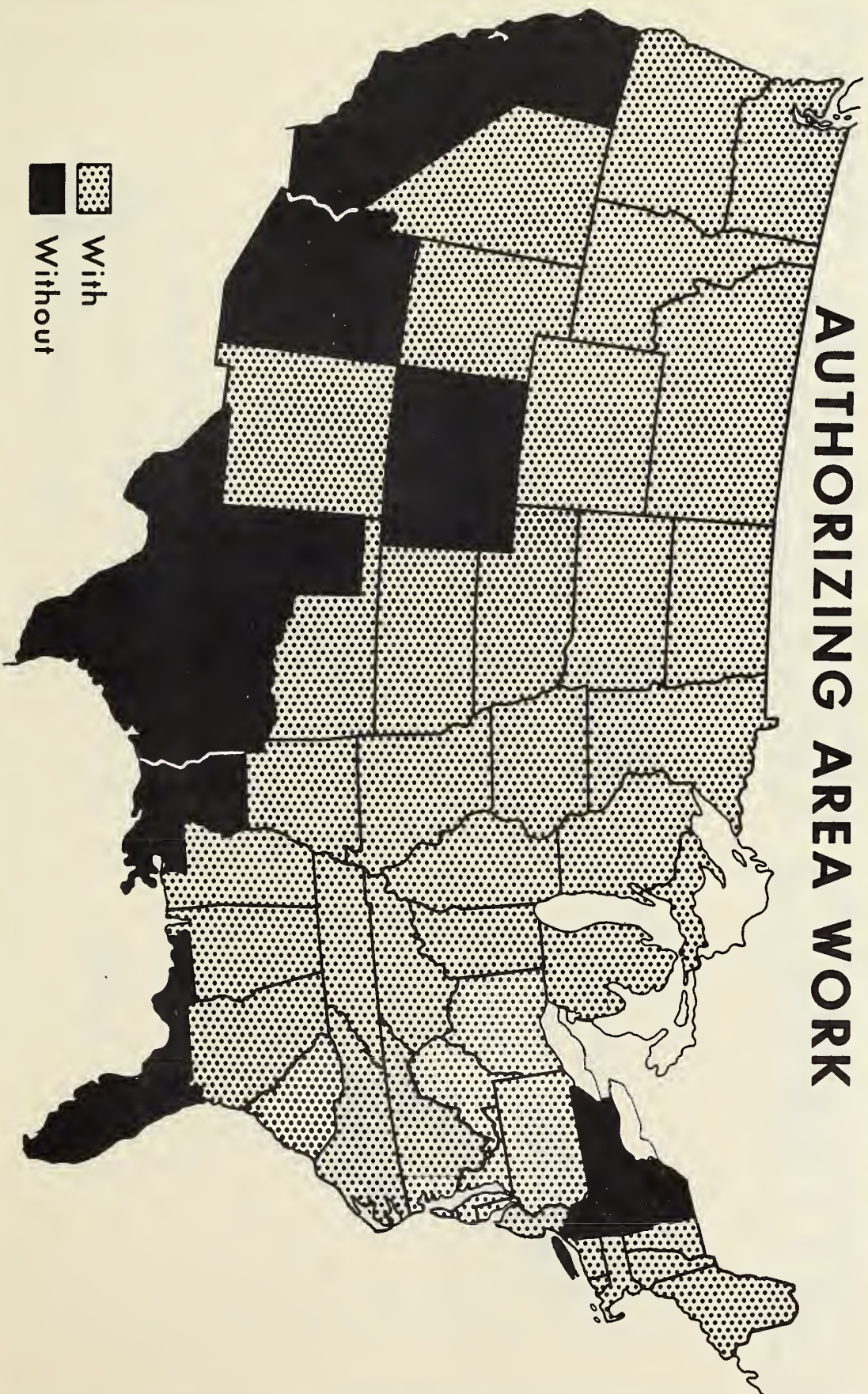
As of December 31, 1954, a total of 350 counties was modified certified brucellosis free compared with 434 counties as of December 31, 1955. About 58,400 herds were certified free at the end of 1954, compared with 82,000 at the end of 1955. At the same time, about 27,270,000 cattle were under supervision in a recognized plan of brucellosis eradication in 1954, compared with 35,235,000 at the end of 1955.

Incidence of infection based upon blood testing varies from month to month, but over a fairly narrow range. At the end of 1954, incidence of reactors to the blood test was reported as 2.4 percent compared with 2.5 at the end of 1955.

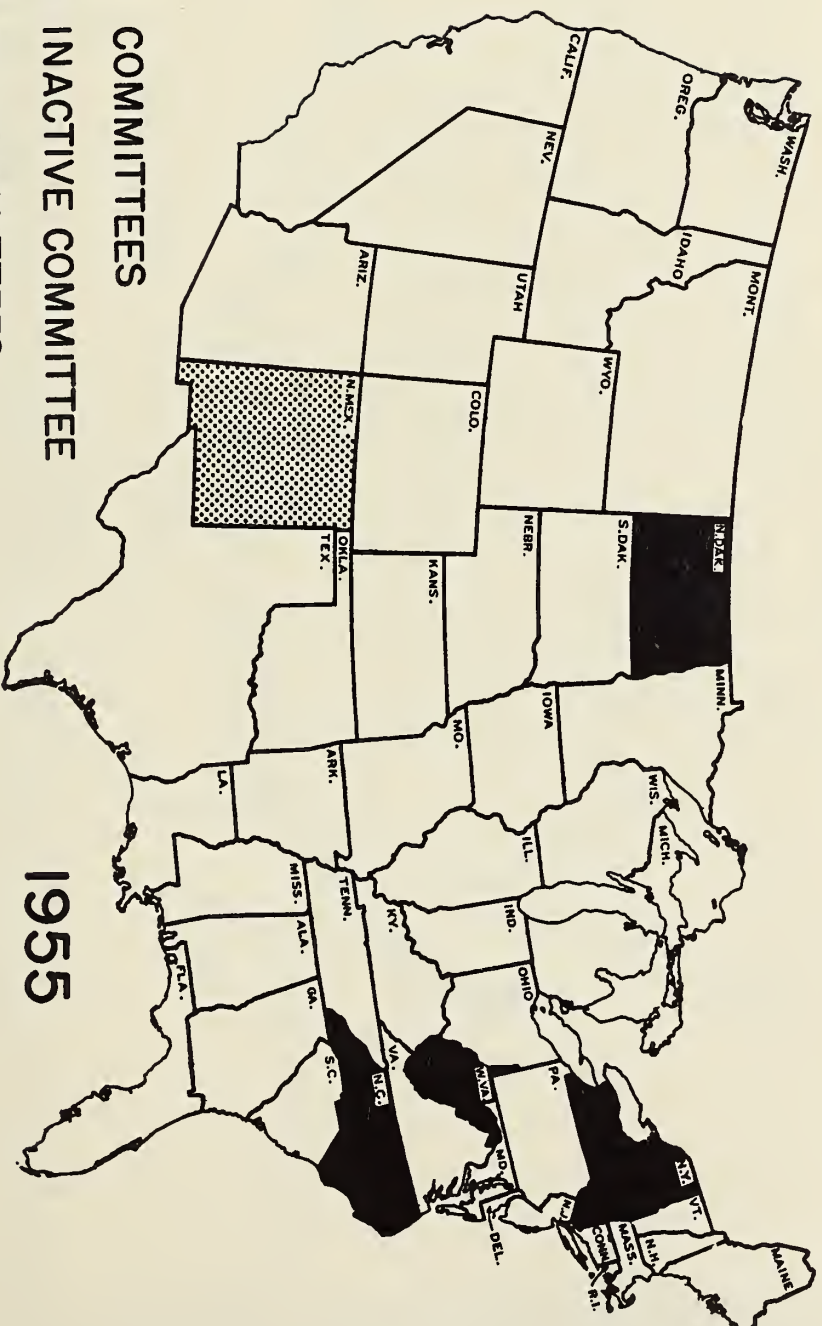
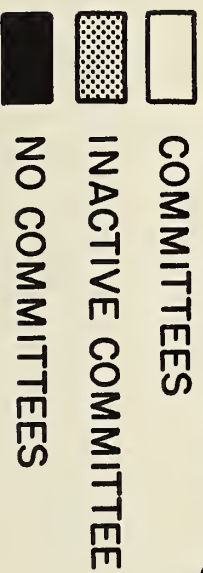
The percentage of infection in the past has been based entirely upon results of the blood test. The system of computing percentage of reactors has been revised so as to include the herds tested by the B. R. T. and found negative. Herds positive to the B. R. T. are later blood tested and are already reflected in reports on blood test reactors. The new system shows the incidence of infection for the calendar year 1955 to be 1.1 percent of the animals tested by the blood test and B. R. T.

Reactors held in herds at the end of 1954 numbered 70,000 compared with 50,000 at the end of 1955. The number of reactors sent to slaughter in 1954 was 144,000 compared with 363,000 during 1955.

STATES WITH LAWS OR REGULATIONS AUTHORIZING AREA WORK

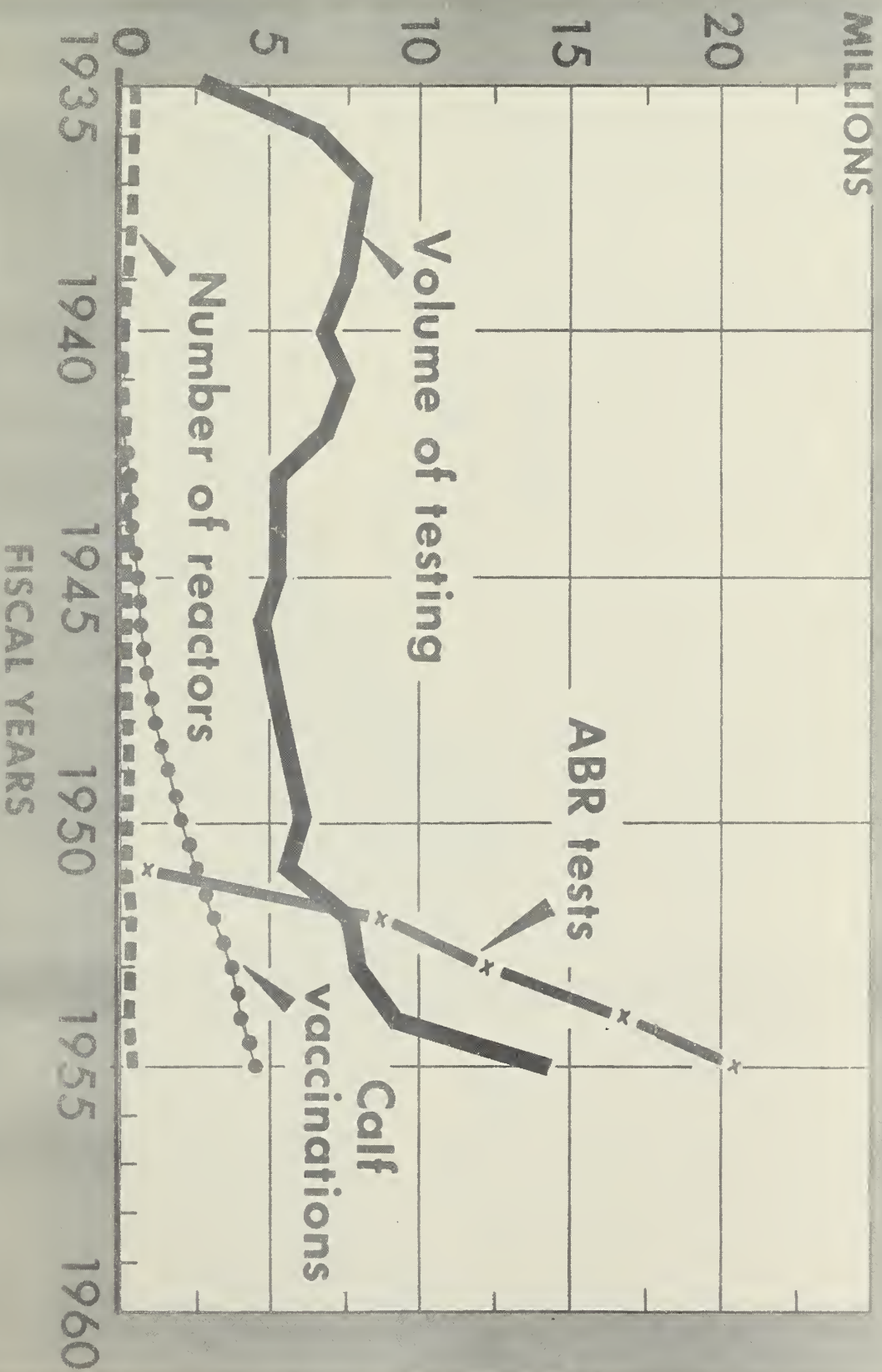


STATE BRUCELLOSIS COMMITTEES



1955

BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION PROGRAM



CATTLE TESTED FOR BRUCELLOSIS

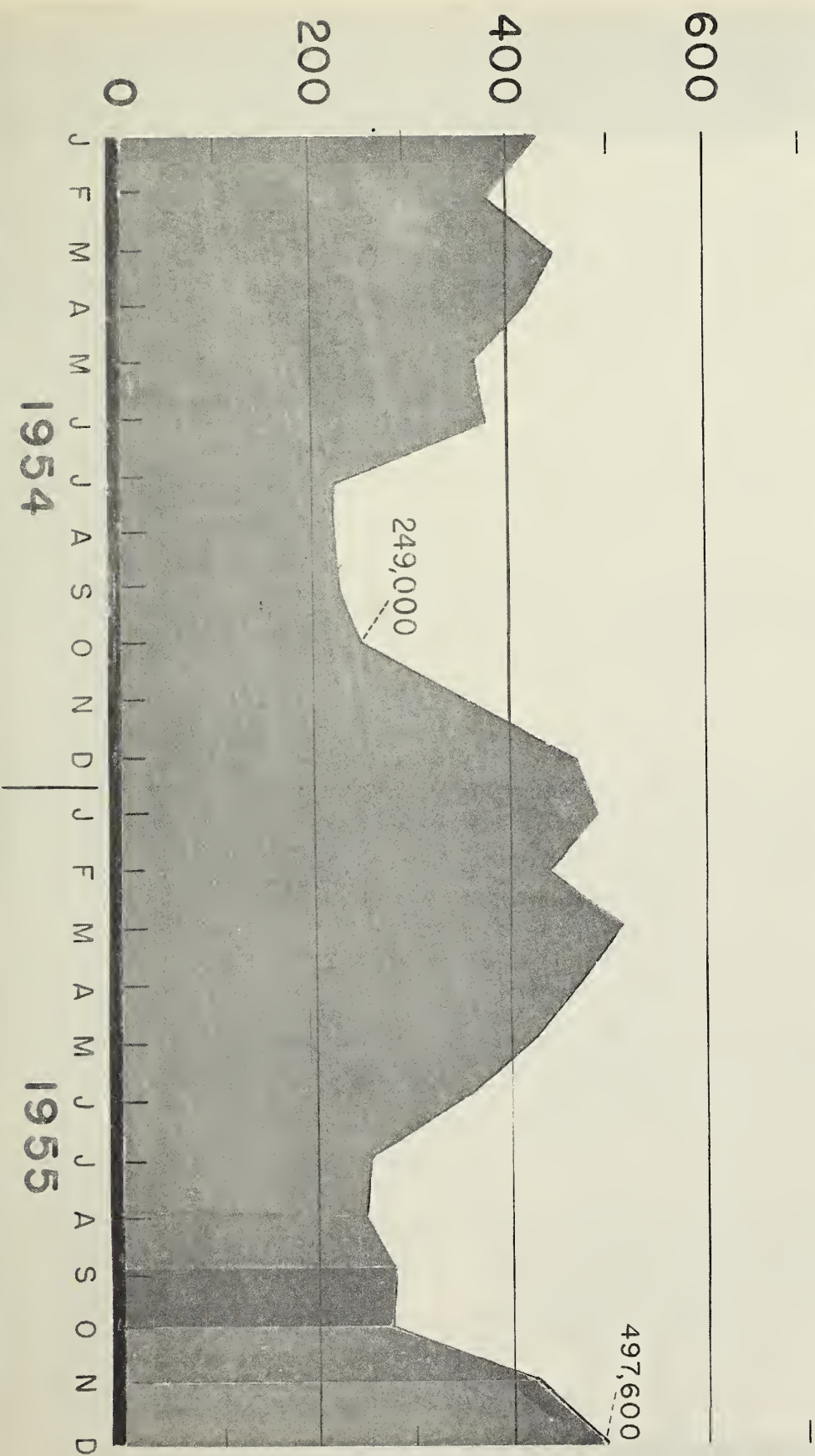
MILLIONS

%



CALVES VACCINATED FOR BRUCELLOSIS

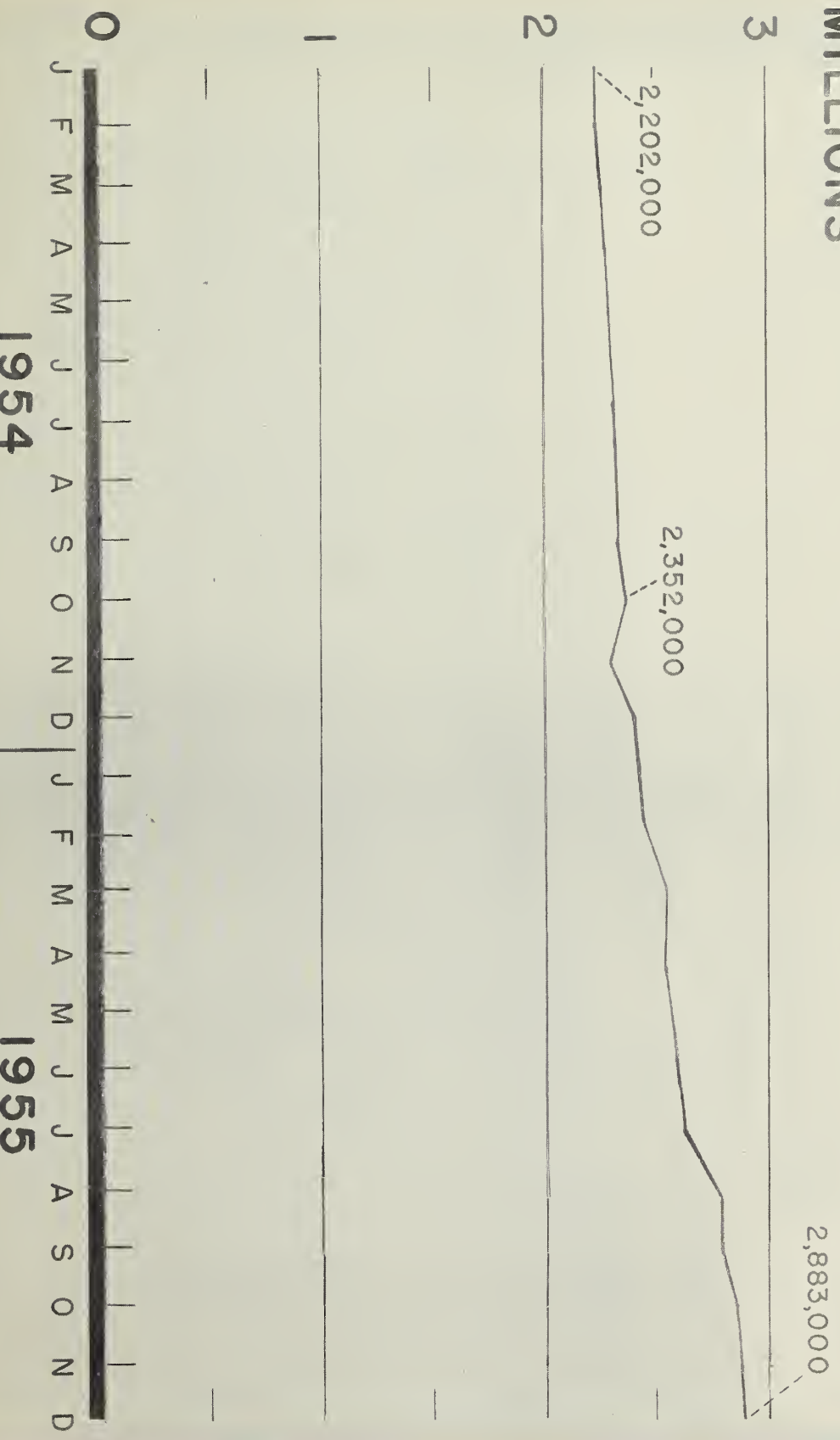
THOUSANDS



HERDS

UNDER SUPERVISION FOR BRUCELLOSIS

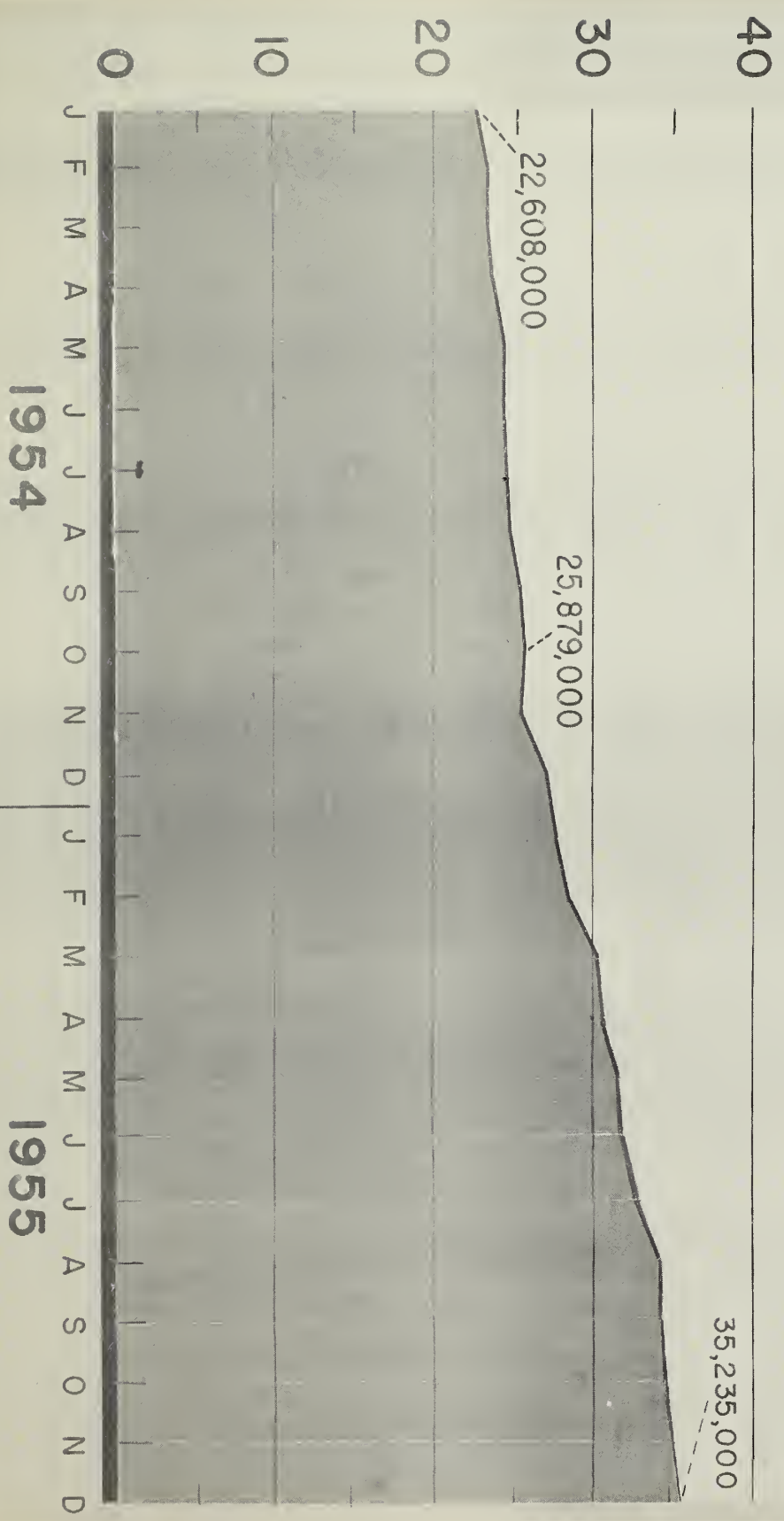
MILLIONS



CATTLE

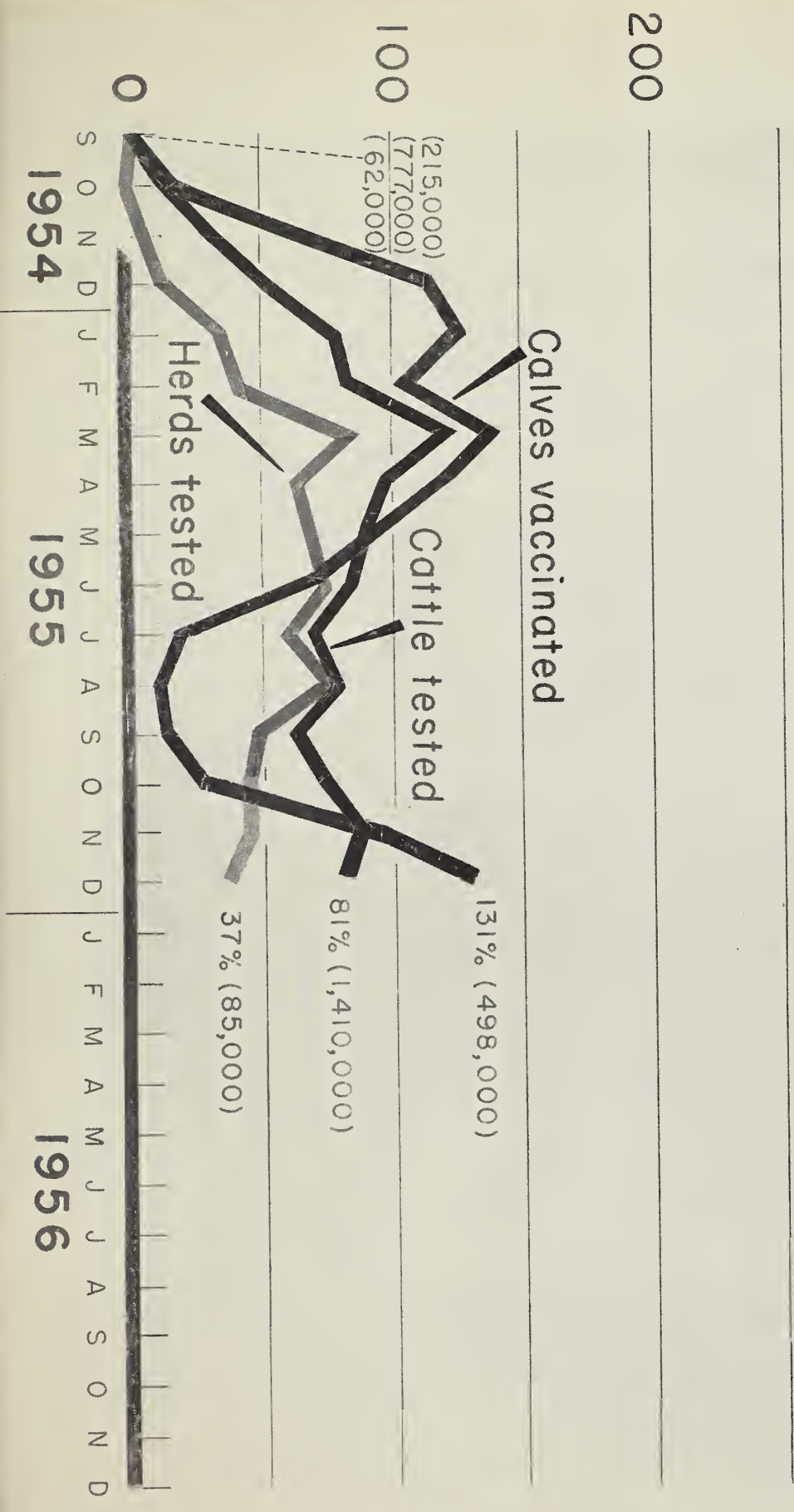
UNDER SUPERVISION FOR BRUCELLOSIS

MILLIONS



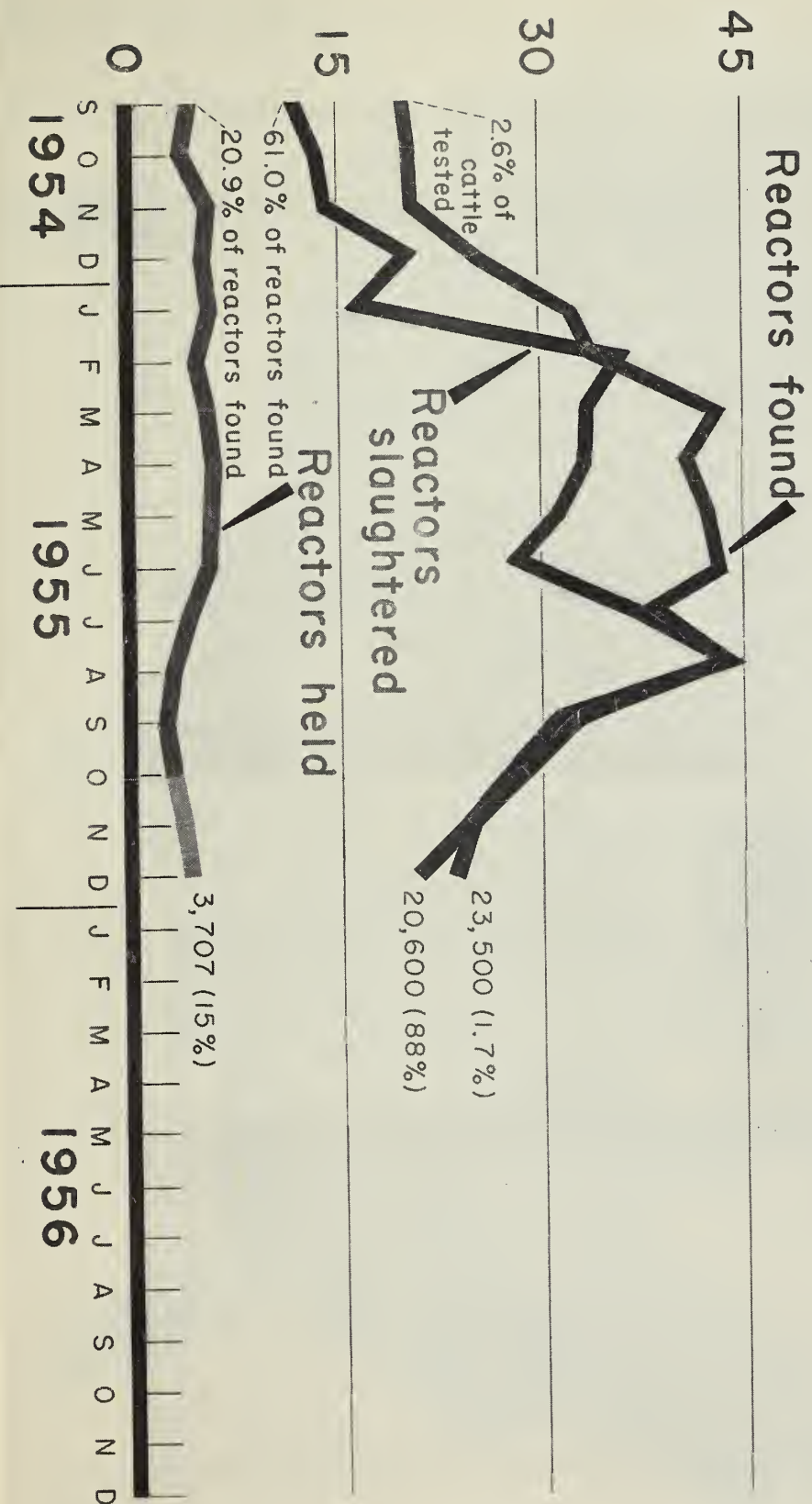
BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION PROGRAM

% OF SEPT. 1954



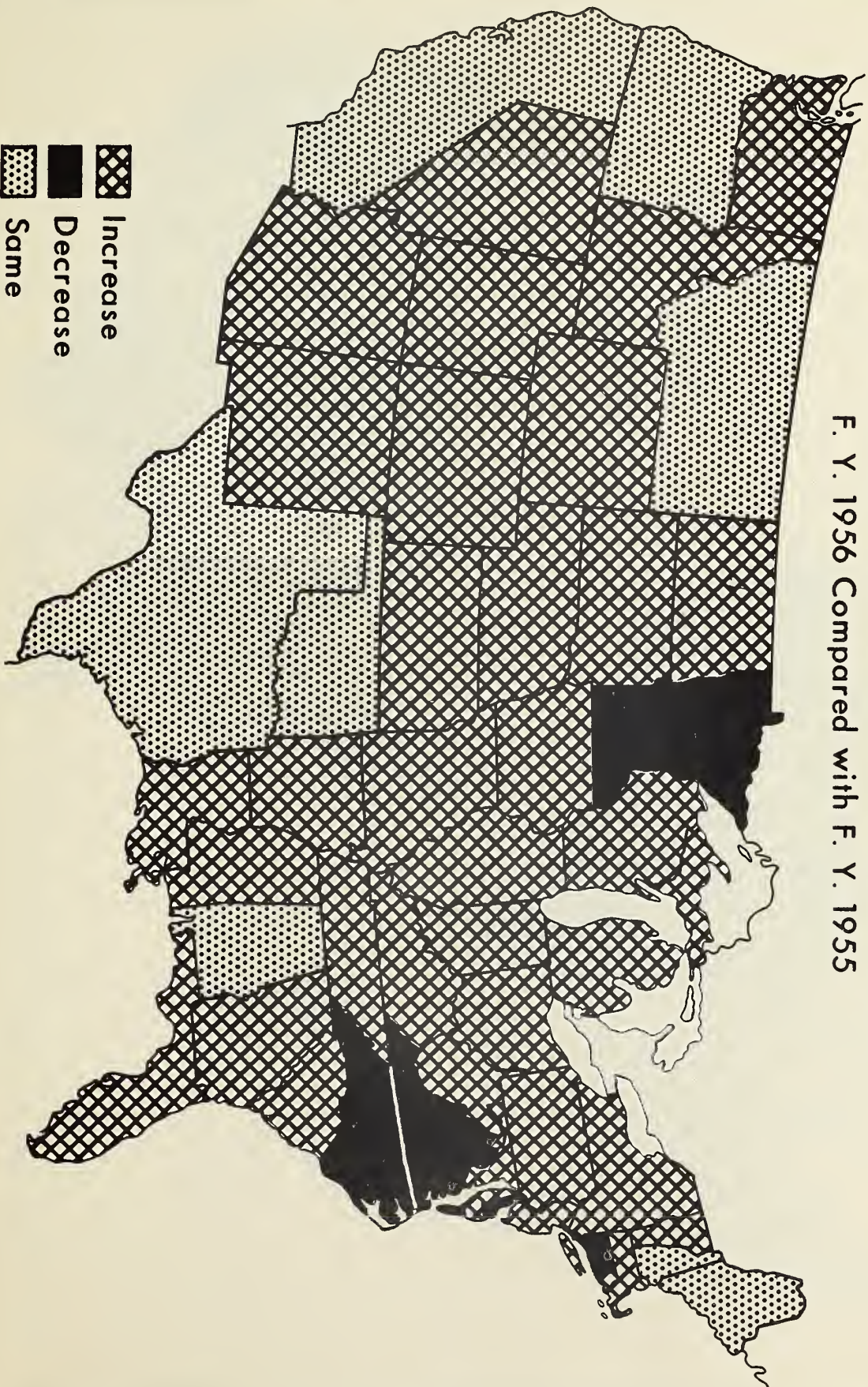
BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION PROGRAM

THOUSANDS



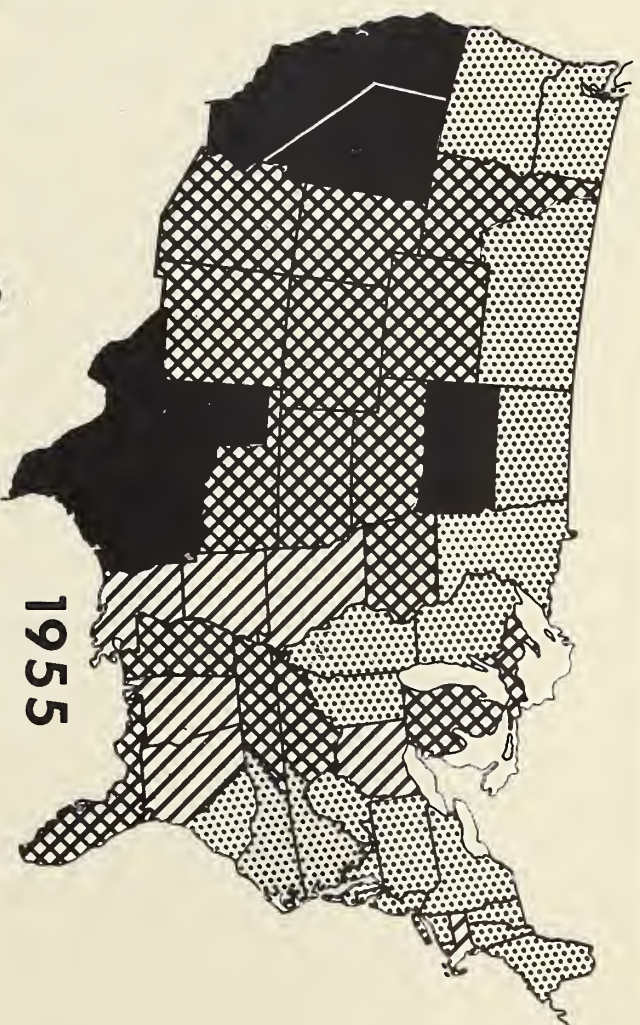
STATE FUNDS AVAILABLE

F. Y. 1956 Compared with F. Y. 1955

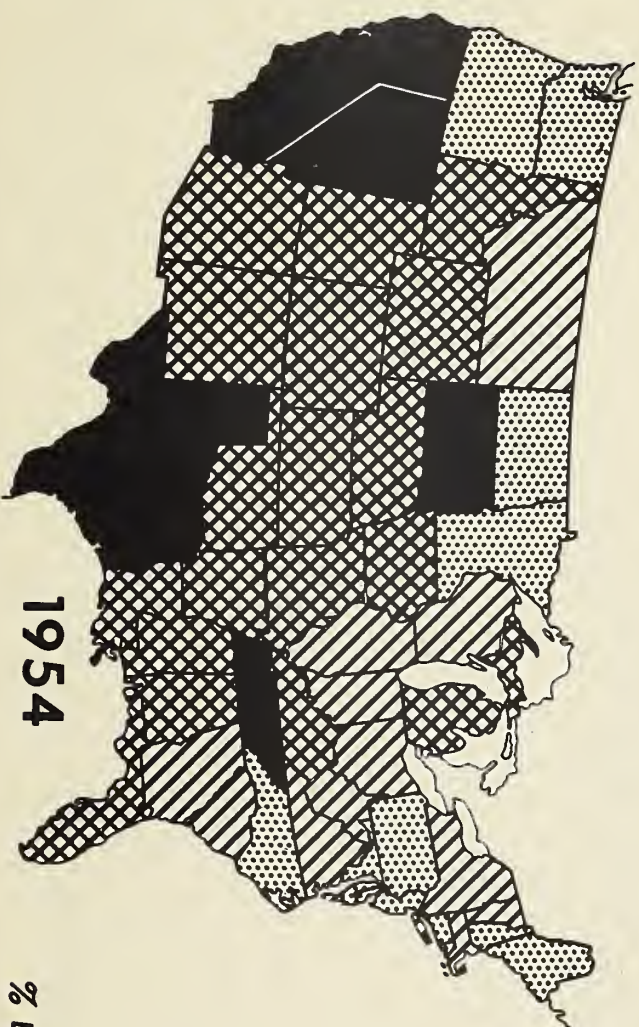


Bovine Brucellosis

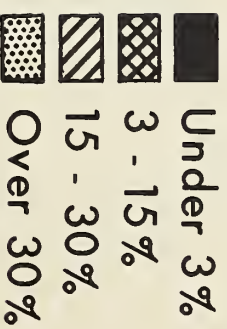
**CATTLE
BLOOD
TESTED**



1955



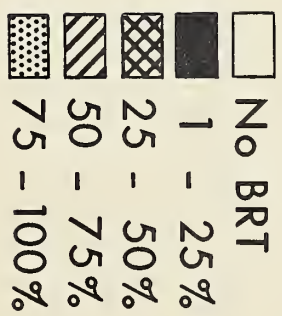
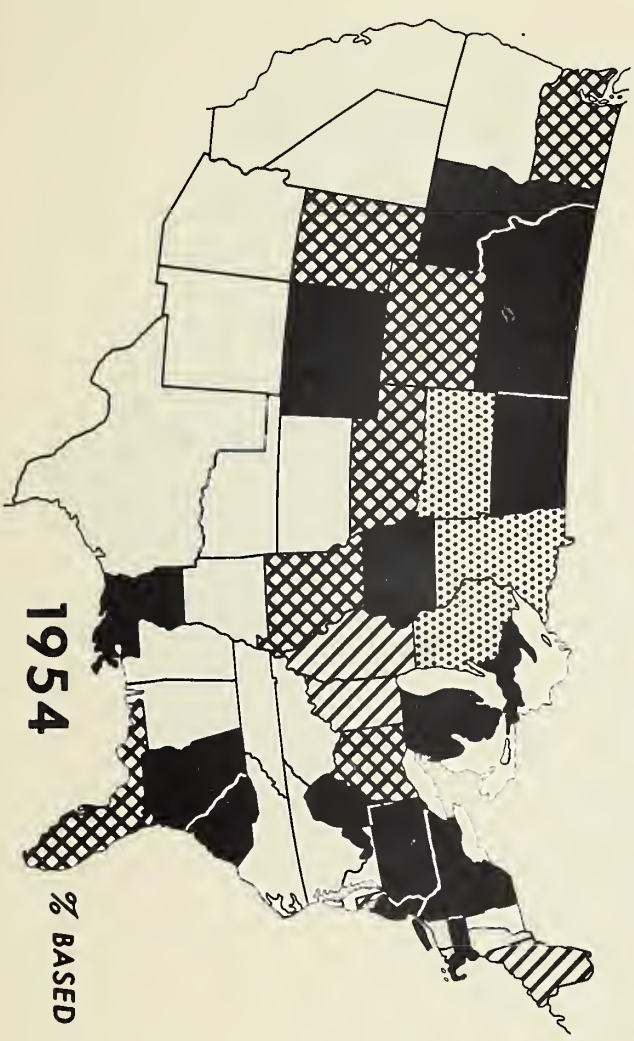
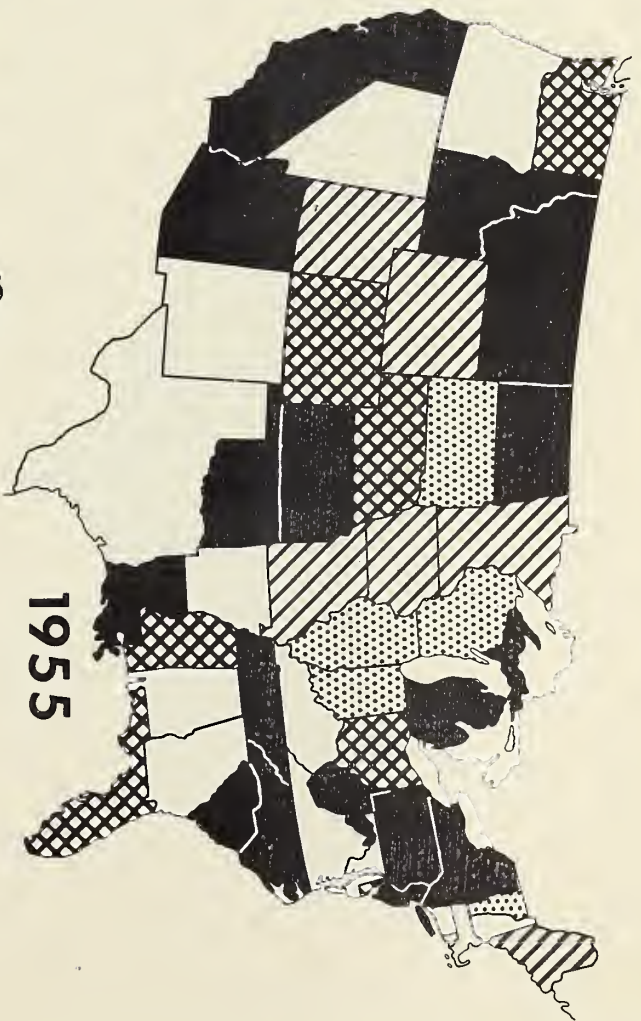
1954



% BASED ON BREEDING CATTLE POPULATION

Bovine Brucellosis

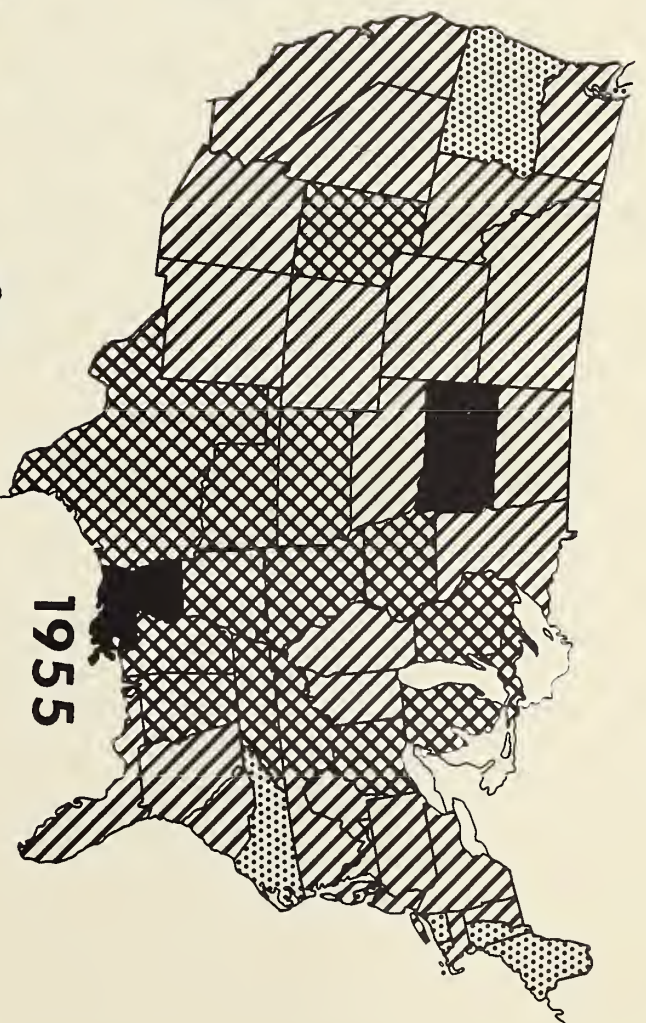
MILK RING TEST



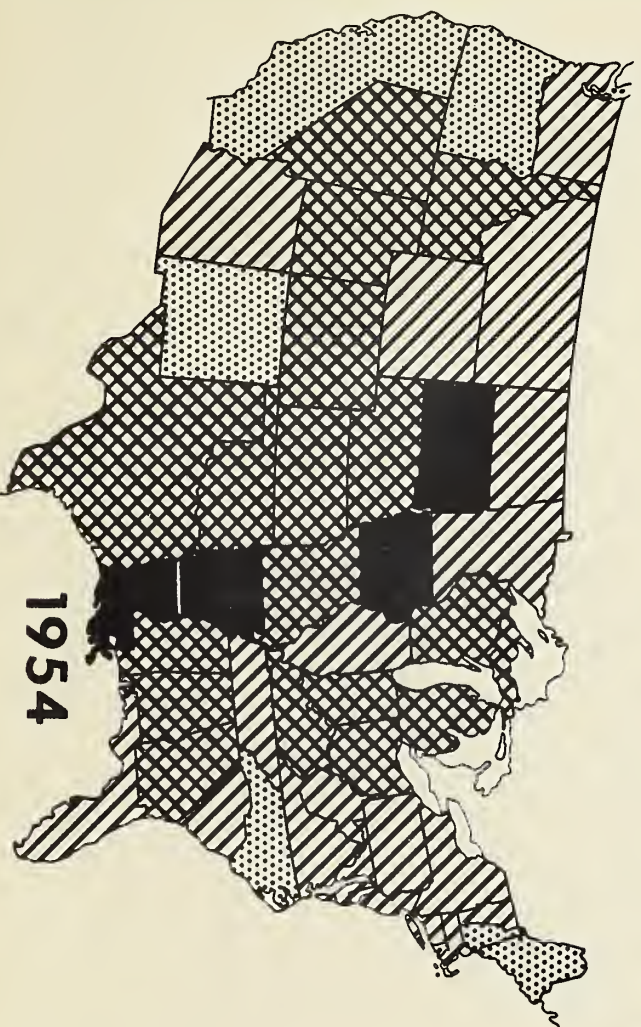
% BASED ON ESTIMATED CATTLE RING TESTED AND
DAIRY CATTLE POPULATION

Bovine Brucellosis

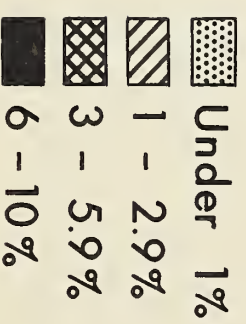
REACTORS FOUND



1955



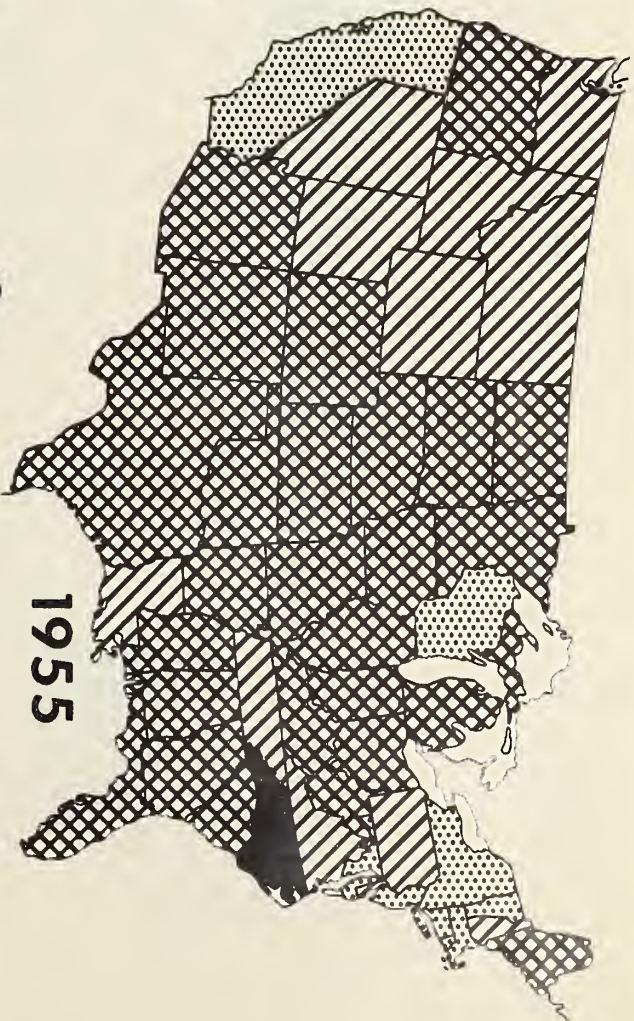
1954



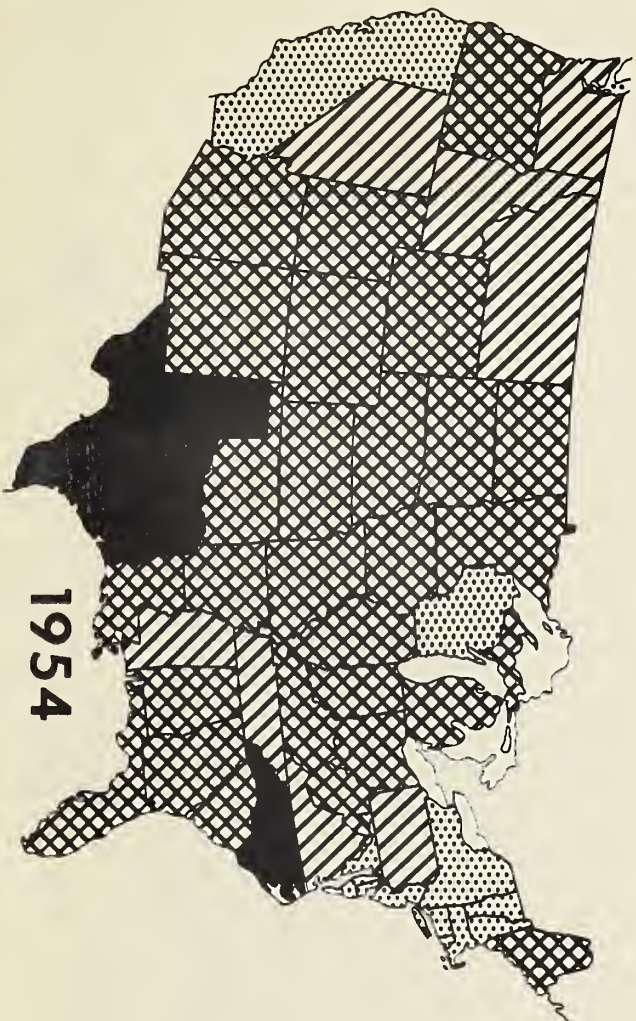
% BASED ON CATTLE BLOOD TESTED

Bovine Brucellosis

**CALVES
OFFICIALLY
VACCINATED**



1955



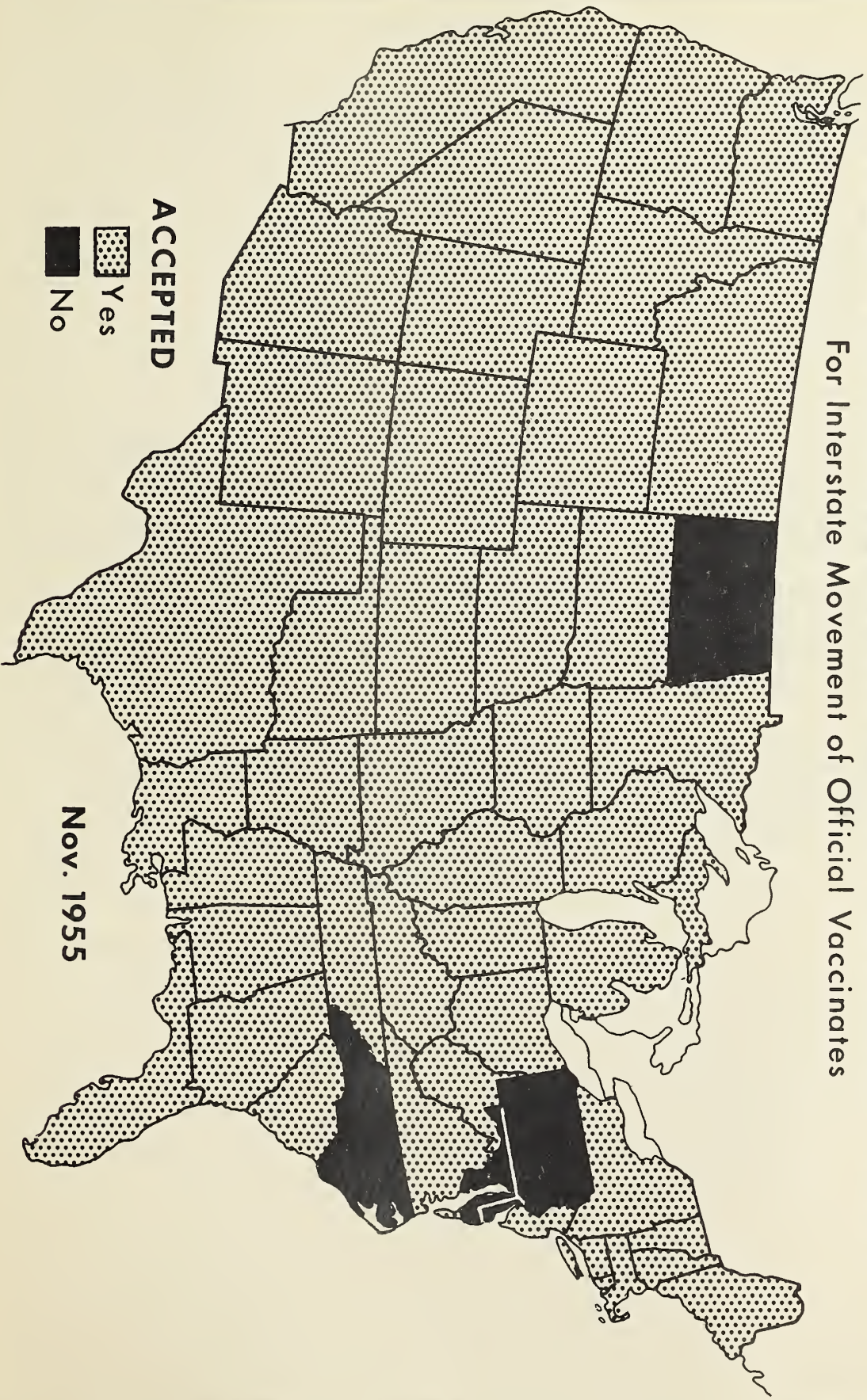
1954

-  Under 3%
-  3 - 25%
-  25 - 50%
-  Over 50%

% BASED ON NUMBER OF CALVES
RETAINED ANNUALLY


NEW INTERPRETATION OF BLOOD TEST

For Interstate Movement of Official Vaccinates



ACCEPTED

 Yes

 No

Nov. 1955

CERTIFIED HERDS

1. Certification of herds which do not show infection on first test.

A herd not known to have been infected with brucellosis may be certified as brucellosis free when all breeding cattle in the herd (except calves under 6 months of age and officially vaccinated animals under 30 months of age) have passed a second negative blood test in not less than 6 nor more than 12 months.

2. Certification of previously infected herds.

When brucellosis is found in a herd, tests are required at not more than 60-day intervals until the herd has passed a negative test. Following the negative test, 2 more negative tests are required for certification with the first negative test and the certifying test not less than 12 months apart.

3. Use of the B. R. T. (brucellosis ring test of herd milk or cream).

Three negative BRT at not less than 90-day intervals with one negative blood test will qualify a herd for certification.

4. Recertification of herds.

Negative blood tests annually are required for recertification of all herds. (Should infection be disclosed by the recertification test, the procedure for recertifying the herd is similar to that outlined for original certification of a previously infected herd. (See 2 above,))

MODIFIED CERTIFIED BRUCELLOSIS-FREE AREAS

1. Certifying Areas.

Areas are certified by testing herds according to the same basic principles applied in certifying herds. Infection may not exceed 1 percent of the cattle and 5 percent of the herds. All infected herds are placed under quarantine and tested until they can qualify as brucellosis-free. When infection exceeds 1 percent of the cattle and 5 percent of the herds, retesting is continued until the area qualifies for certification.

2. Use of BRT in Area Certification.

Two BRT's applied not less than 6 months apart may be substituted for blood tests under area operations. All herds showing evidence of brucellosis and all herds not included in the BRT are blood tested.

3. Certifying Range and Semirange Areas.

In certifying range and semirange areas, all herds are blood tested. The following animals are subject to test: (a) All purebred cattle, (b) all dairy cattle, and (c) not less than 20 percent of the range and semirange cows over 3 years of age. If infection is found in any herd, all remaining range and semirange cows over 3 years of age in the herd are tested.

4. Recertification of Areas.

Area certification is valid for a 3-year period. At the end of that period, an area may be recertified by blood testing all herds which showed infection in the previous area certification or since and 20 percent of other

representative herds. Incidence of infection must not exceed 1 percent of the cattle and 5 percent of the herds tested. If infection exceeds that level, retesting is continued similar to that required for certifying the area.

5. Recertification with the use of BRT.

Areas certified through the use of BRT's may be recertified by continuing (a) semiannual BRT's, (b) follow-up blood tests of herds reacting to the BRT, and (c) blood tests at 3-year intervals of 20 percent of the herds not included in the BRT.

6. Recertification of Range and Semirange Areas.

Range and semirange areas may be recertified for 3-year periods when 20 percent of the herds, including animals subject to test under area certification for such areas, have been retested and the rate of infection does not exceed 1 percent of the cattle and 5 percent of the herds that are subject to test.

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SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROVISIONS OF
PROPOSED RULE MAKING

BRUCELLOSIS IN DOMESTIC ANIMALS

INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS

(9 CFR PART 78)

Subpart B.

I. (78.5) 78.12 - INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF BRUCELLOSIS REACTORS

Brucellosis reactors may move interstate only for immediate slaughter either (a) directly to plants operating under Federal meat inspection, or (b) to public stockyards (stockyards maintaining Federal inspection) for sale to Federally inspected slaughtering establishments. The cattle must be accompanied by a certificate issued by a Federal or State inspector or an accredited veterinarian showing the reactor tag number of each animal and must be branded with "B" on the left jaw.

Subpart C.

II. 78.13 - INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF CATTLE NOT KNOWN TO BE AFFECTED WITH BRUCELLOSIS

A. Movement of Steers, Spayed Heifers, and Calves under 8 Months

Steers, spayed heifers and calves under 8 months of age may move interstate without restriction.

B. Movement to Public Stockyards and Federally Inspected Slaughtering Establishments

Cattle may move interstate to Federally or State inspected, or State-Branch approved slaughtering establishments and to public stockyards if accompanied by a waybill showing: (1) Name and address of shipper, (2) number of animals in the shipment, (3) their origin, and (4) their destination.

C. Movement into Non-Certified Areas

Cattle of certain specified classes (see below) may move interstate into non-certified areas if accompanied by a certificate issued by (1) a State inspector, (2) a Federal inspector, or (3) an accredited veterinarian showing one of the following for each animal: (1) Identification tag number, (2) identifying tattoo, (3) registration number, or (4) a "V" brand of official vaccinates under 30 months of age. (Official vaccinates are bovine animals vaccinated for brucellosis, under supervision of a Federal or a State veterinary official, when 4 through 8 months of age, or when 4 to 12 months of age in the case of beef calves in range or semi-range areas.)

The following classes of cattle are permitted to move interstate under this provision:

- (1) Cattle negative to a test within 30 days before movement.
- (2) Official vaccinates under 30 months of age.
- (3) Bulls and female beef cattle for feeding or grazing purposes, under permit of the State of destination, if they are to be kept under official quarantine and segregated from other cattle.
- (4) Cattle originating in a modified certified brucellosis-free area. (A State or county in which it has been officially determined that not more than 1 percent of the cattle and 5 percent of the herds are affected with brucellosis.)
- (5) Cattle originating in a certified brucellosis-free herd. (A herd which has been officially determined to be free from brucellosis.)

D. Movement into Certified Areas

Cattle of certain specified classes (see below) may move interstate into modified certified brucellosis-free areas if accompanied by a certificate issued by (1) a State inspector, (2) a Federal inspector,

or (3) an accredited veterinarian, showing one of the following for each animal: (1) Identification tag number, (2) identifying tattoo, (3) registration number, or (4) a "V" brand of official vaccinates under 30 months of age.

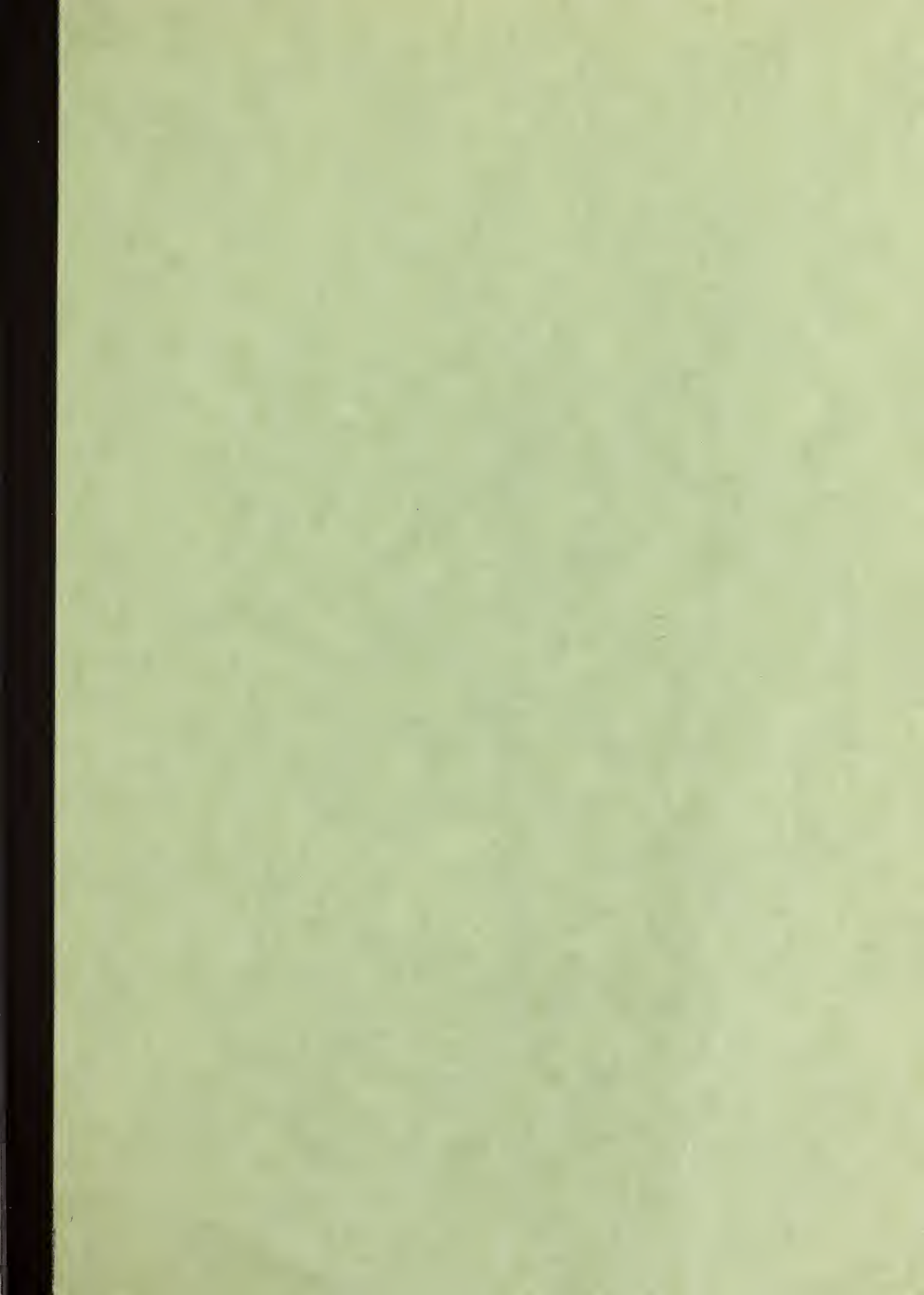
The following classes of cattle are permitted to move under this provision:

- (1) Cattle originating in certified brucellosis-free herds.
- (2) Cattle originating in modified certified brucellosis-free areas.
- (3) Official vaccinates under 30 months of age.
- (4) Cattle from herds, under Federal-State brucellosis programs, in which all cattle over 8 months of age (except official vaccinates under 30 months of age) are negative to a brucellosis herd test within 90 days of shipment. The individual animals to be shipped must be found negative to another test at least 30 days after the herd test and within 30 days of shipment.
- (5) Cattle negative to a brucellosis test within 30 days before shipment, under permit from the State of destination, if they are to be kept under official quarantine and segregated from other cattle until they are tested again at least 30 days after arrival at destination and found negative or until their death.
- (6) Bulls and female beef cattle for feeding or grazing purposes, under permit of the State of destination, if they are to be kept under official quarantine and segregated from other cattle.

III. INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF CATTLE NOT OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED

Other interstate movement of cattle not provided for under this subpart may be authorized by the Chief of the Animal Disease Eradication Branch, Agricultural Research Service.

January 5, 1956



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